

Amendments to the Claims

1-37. (Cancelled)

38. (New) A powder paint, characterized in that pigment particles therein are bound via shellac to base paint powders therein.

39. (New) The powder paint according to Claim 38, wherein the content of the shellac is 0.01 to 1 mass % with respect to the total amount of the powder paint.

40. (New) The powder paint according to Claim 38, wherein the average diameter of the base paint powders is 10 to 100 μ m.

41. (New) The powder paint according to Claim 38, wherein the average diameter of the pigment particles is not more than 100 μ m.

42. (New) The powder paint according to Claim 38, wherein the powder paint contains a bright pigment as the pigment particle and the average diameter of the bright pigment is 2 to 100 μ m.

43. (New) The powder paint according to Claim 42, wherein the bright pigments are in the shape of flake and the thickness thereof is 0.01 to 10 μ m.

44. (New) The powder paint according to Claim 38, wherein the powder paint contains an inorganic coloring pigment as the pigment particle and the average diameter of the inorganic coloring pigments is 0.01 to 5.0 μ m.

45. (New) The powder paint according to Claim 38, wherein the powder paint contains an organic coloring pigment as the pigment particle and the average diameter of the organic coloring pigments is 0.01 to 1.0 μ m.

46. (New) The powder paint according to Claim 38, wherein the powder paint contains a phosphorescent pigment as the pigment particle and the average diameter of the phosphorescent pigment is 1 to 100 μ m.
47. (New) The powder paint according to Claim 38, wherein the content of the pigment particle is 0.1 to 50 mass % with respect to the total amount of the powder paint.
48. (New) A process of producing the powder paint according to Claim 38, characterized in that the process comprises the steps of: blending the base paint powder and the pigment particle; blending the resulting mixture with a liquid bonding auxiliary agent wherein shellac is dissolved in an organic solvent; and drying.
49. (New) The process of producing the powder paint according to Claim 48, wherein the liquid bonding auxiliary agent is blended using a mechanically agitating blender in the blending step.
50. (New) The process of producing the powder paint according to Claim 48, wherein the liquid bonding auxiliary agent is blended using an airstream fluidized blender in the blending step.
51. (New) The process of producing the powder paint according to Claim 48, wherein the liquid bonding auxiliary agent is added by spraying or dropwise addition.
52. (New) The process of producing the powder paint according to Claim 51, the step of spraying the liquid bonding auxiliary agent is carried out concurrently with the step of drying by supplying air.
53. (New) The process of producing the powder paint according to Claim 52, wherein heated air is used as the air.

54. (New) A process of forming a coated film, characterized in that the coated film is formed by electrostatic powder coating of the powder paint according to Claim 38 onto a substrate made of metal material.

55. (New) The process of forming a coated film according to Claim 54, wherein a primer layer is formed in advance to the electrostatic powder coating.

56. (New) The process of forming a coated film according to Claim 55, wherein the primer layer is formed with a powder paint.

57. (New) The process of forming a coated film according to Claim 56, wherein the primer layer is formed with a powder paint having an epoxy resin hardening-type polyester resin or acid hardening-type epoxy group-containing acrylic resin as the main component of the base paint powder.

58. (New) The process of forming a coated film according to Claim 54, wherein an additional top clear layer is formed over the coated film.

59. (New) The process of forming a coated film according to Claim 58, wherein the top clear layer is formed with an acrylic solvent-based clear paint or acrylic powder-based clear paint.

60. (New) The process of forming a coated film according to Claim 59, wherein a polyisocyanate hardening-type clear paint is used as the acrylic solvent-based clear paint.

61. (New) The process of forming a coated film according to Claim 59, wherein an acid hardening-type clear paint having epoxy groups is used as the acrylic powder-based clear paint.

62. (New) The process of forming a coated film according to Claim 59, wherein a clear paint, having an epoxy group-containing acrylic resin as the base resin and

containing a polycarboxylic acid as a curing agent, is used as the acrylic powder-based clear paint.

63. (New) The process of forming a coated film according to Claim 62, wherein dodecanedicarboxylic acid is used as the polycarboxylic acid.

64. (New) A process of producing a coated product coated with a powder paint, characterized in comprising a step of coating the powder paint according to Claim 38 onto a substrate made of metal material by electrostatic powder coating.

65. (New) The process of producing a coated product according to Claim 64, further comprising a step of forming a primer layer onto the substrate in advance to the electrostatic powder coating step.

66. (New) The process of producing a coated product according to Claim 65, wherein the primer layer is formed with a powder paint.

67. (New) The process of producing a coated product according to Claim 65, wherein the primer layer is formed with a powder paint having an epoxy resin hardening-type polyester resin or acid hardening-type epoxy group-containing acrylic resin as the main component of the base paint powder.

68. (New) The process of producing a coated product according to Claim 64, further comprising a step of forming a top clear layer as the utmost outer layer.

69. (New) The process of producing a coated product according to Claim 68, wherein the top clear layer is formed with an acrylic solvent-based clear paint or acrylic powder-based clear paint.

70. (New) The process of producing a coated product according to Claim 69, wherein a polyisocyanate hardening-type clear paint is used as the acrylic solvent-based clear paint.

71. (New) The process of producing a coated product according to Claim 69, wherein an acid hardening-type having epoxy groups is used as the acrylic powder-based clear paint.

72. (New) The process of producing a coated product according to Claim 69, wherein a clear paint, having an epoxy group-containing acrylic resin as the base resin and containing a polycarboxylic acid as a curing agent, is used as the acrylic powder-based clear paint.

73. (New) The process of producing a coated product according to Claim 72, wherein dodecanedicarboxylic acid is used as the polycarboxylic acid.

74. (New) A coated product, characterized in being produced by the process according to Claim 64.

75. (New) A coated product, characterized in being produced by the process according to Claim 65.

76. (New) A coated product, characterized in being produced by the process according to Claim 66.

77. (New) A coated product, characterized in being produced by the process according to Claim 67.

78. (New) A coated product, characterized in being produced by the process according to Claim 68.

79. (New) A coated product, characterized in being produced by the process according to Claim 69.

80. (New) A coated product, characterized in being produced by the process according to Claim 70.

81. (New) A coated product, characterized in being produced by the process according to Claim 71.

82. (New) A coated product, characterized in being produced by the process according to Claim 72.

83. (New) A coated product, characterized in being produced by the process according to Claim 73.